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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Wednesday 25th August 2021
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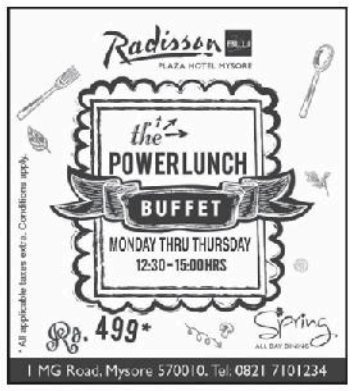

100 EV charging points on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway

- Mysuru city also to get about 100 Electric Vehicle charging points
- Energy Minister asks CESC to chalk out 100-day programme

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&BCT)- Giving a strong push to electric mobility by establishing public charging stations all along the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway and also at many places inside Mysuru city, Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar asked officers of Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) to identify spots on a priority basis.

"More and more people are switching to Electric Vehicles (EVs) and a brand-new 10-lane Expressway is being built between Mysuru and Bengaluru. Having just one or two charging stations and being ignorant towards the growing trend is not fair," he told CESC officers at a review meeting of the Department held at Government Guest House here this morning.

Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar (left) addressing a review meeting in city this morning as MP Pratap Simha looks on.

Sunil Kumar, who arrived in Mysuru last evening for the first time after being sworn-in as Minister in Bommai Cabinet, visited Chamundi Hill temple today before holding the meeting.

(See CHARGING on page 6)

Suspected sexual assault: City student critical

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&BCT)- In a shocking incident reported from Alanahalli Police Station limits last night, two students pursuing higher education in city were assaulted at Lalithadripura. The condition of the girl student, who has been admitted to a private hospital, is said to be critical. She is not in a position to talk and the Police are suspecting sexual assault.

Last evening, after College, the two students went to Lalithadripura on a bike and were sitting on a rock. Seeing them, a group of six youths, who were in an inebriated condition, came on their bikes at around 7.30 pm and beat up the boy student who resisted their advances towards the girl student.

In his complaint, the boy student said that both of them were beaten up black and blue while the girl was sexually assaulted. At around 11 pm, the victims somehow managed to reach the road and a few passers-by got them admitted to a hospital.

Seeing the condition of the girl, the hospital authorities informed the Alanahalli Police. Inspector Ravishankar rushed to the hospital and took the statement of the boy student.

The girl's parents, who stay outside Karnataka, have been informed and they are on their way to the hospital.

First BJP Mayor !

Sunanda Palanetra of BJP elected Mysuru Mayor

District Minister S.T. Somashekar seen greeting the new Mayor Sunanda Palanetra as MLAs S.A. Ramdas and L. Nagendra, City BJP President T.S. Srivatsa and MP Pratap Simha look on.

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RKB&DM)- In a dramatic turn of events minutes into the poll process for the election of the new city Mayor this noon, Sunanda Palanetra of the BJP was elected as the Mayor with Congress Corporators, led by NR MLA Tanveeer Sait walking out in protest against the stance of its alliance partner JD(S), which chose to stay neutral at the last minute and fielded its own candidate. **With the election of Sunanda, the BJP has come to power in the Civic Body for the first time since the election to the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) was first held in 1983.**

Sunanda, who represents MCC Ward 59 (Kuvempunagar M-Block) and one of the most senior members of the Civic Body, becomes the 35th Mayor of the city. The Mayor post was reserved for General Category woman. The mid-term Mayoral poll was necessitated after Rukmini Madegowda of the JD(S) was disqualified as the Mayor subsequent to the Karnataka High Court annulling her election from Ward 36 on the grounds of inappropriate declaration of assets in May last.

The MCC has 65 Corporators and a current total electoral strength of 72 with MCC Ward 36 lying vacant.

(See FIRST BJP MAYOR on page 6)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Wednesday 25th August 2021

Cycle Pure launches Sampoorna Ganesh Chaturthi Puja Kit

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Cycle Pure Agarbathi, from the world's largest manufacturer of agarbathies N. Ranga Rao & Sons (NRRS), brings the Sampoorna Ganesh Chaturthi Puja Kit ahead of Ganesh Chaturthi festival this year.

The Puja Kit has been specially created for a safe and convenient puja experience for devotees. The brand urges everyone to celebrate the occasion within the safety of their homes with this complete kit.

The eco-friendly kit consists of the best quality products along with a step-by-step instructional CD to guide the users while performing puja rituals in the conventional way. It includes Haridra (turmeric), Kumkuma, Puja Akshataa, Puja Bell, Peetha for Bell, Yagnopavita (for Ganesh), Vastra (for Ganesh), Agarbathi, Deepam, Pugi Phala, Karpoora, Kapoora Holder for Aarti, Cup Sambrani, Cup Sambrani & Agarbathi Holder, Bhasmam, Gopi Mrutika, Chandanam Tablets, Kankana, Rangoli powder, Rangoli Stencil, Thorana, Booklet, Earthen Ganesh Idol and an Instructional Audio CD.

Speaking about the product, Arjun Ranga, Managing Director, Cycle Pure Agarbathi, says, "At Cycle Pure, we help our customers connect with their roots and ensure that our age-old family traditions and rituals are sustained and perpetuated. We have designed the Sampoorna Ganesha Chaturthi Puja Kit with utmost care as per our Vedic scriptures. This kit helps devotees of all age groups to perform the puja conveniently with simple step-by-step instructions in the safety of their homes."

The Sampoorna Ganesh Chaturthi Puja Kit is available in two price variants Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 500. The brand has extended its home worship segment to various Indian festivals and ceremonies. The products are available in the market as well as on the website *https://www.cycle.in*

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Whenever faced with questions around the drift in the party, Congress leaders are fond of citing two examples. First, how the BJP was once reduced to two seats and now rules the roost. Second, how the INC was in a similar dire situation even when Indira Gandhi was alive. Both examples are meant to suggest that the prospect of bouncing back is real, and only a matter of time. But the stark differences should be obvious to those with institutional memory. The BJP was a young party, it still is, with fire in its belly — its two seats in 1984 is not comparable to the Congress' 44/52 in 2014/2019. Besides, the BJP has a fount in the RSS, an ideological nursery where work never ceases — and nor does the supply of readymade cadre. The INC has no such supply chain.

What it has is a conglomeration of community leaders with individual influence bases. The Congress' inability to retain ambitious young talent bodes ill for its future. In 1977, Indira was still a mass leader with her charisma intact — today's Gandhis do not bring that stature to the Congress. Moreover, it has neither Mamata's combat-readiness nor the BJP's deep resources and planning. The two-year-long reign of ad-hocism in its very top leadership structure — itself an unbelievable aberration — can only trickle down as a general sense of defeatism. *— In The New Indian Express*

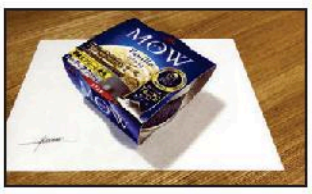
NEWS SPARKLERS

"Relationship" with Chimp: Zoo bans lady

Antwerp: A Belgian woman has been issued a ban by the Antwerp Zoo, because of her close "relationship" with a male chimp that she had been visiting frequently for years.

Adie Timmermans has been visiting Chita, a 38-year-old male chimpanzee, for at least four years and claims that they've developed a very powerful bond that can be described as a "relationship". However, the animal caretakers at the zoo believe this relationship has been causing social problems for Chita within her group of chimps. Because he is so close to Adie, Chita is ignored by the other primates and is not considered part of the pack. To improve his relationship with his own kind, the zoo recently issued a contact ban, forbidding Timmermans from getting too close to Chita's enclosure and instructing her to avoid making eye contact with the animal.

18-year-old's most amazing optical illusions



Tokyo: Japanese artist Keito has been drawing a lot of attention on social media for his incredibly realistic colored pencil drawings which are almost impossible to tell apart from actual objects.

Trompe l'oeil (literally "cheat the eye" in French) is a centuries-old painting and drawing technique design to do just what its name implies. Obviously, the degree to which the viewer is deceived depends mostly on the talent of the artist, and in the case of Keito, an 18-year-old youth from Japan, the deceit is almost always guaranteed. The young artist's 3D rendering skills are so off-the-chart that some of his artworks don't even look like drawings.

Keito has not only mastered the art of shading to create the illusion, but he is also an expert at recreating the textures of the different things he is trying to imitate.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Before anaesthesia, surgeons used a grab-bag of techniques to mask pain, many of which must make you wonder what they were thinking. Some surgeons employed "counterirritants," rubbing nettles against a patient's arm to supposedly distract him or her from the agony of the scalpel.

By Dr. Balasubramanyam P K - Consultant – Anesthesiology

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A unit of ManipalHospitals

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Free poultry training for rural youths at RUDSET from Aug.26

Mysuru, Aug. 25- RUDSET Institute, Mysuru, has invited applications from eligible youths for skill training programme in Poultry from Aug.26 to Sept.4.

Youths between the age group of 18 to 45 years and residing in the rural area of Mysuru, Chamarajanagar and Mandya districts having BPL cards may apply for training.

The said skill training programme is free of cost with compulsorily residential basis with free boarding and lodging facility. Interested candidates can directly get into the training at 9.30 am on Aug.26. They should bring clothing and other essential items necessary for staying at the Institute. For details contact the Director, RUDSET Institute, Main Road, Hinkal, Mysuru - 570 030 or call Ph : 0821-2519663 or Mob: 88845-54510 or 98801-96581 or 98440-13948.

REALLY...?

- ***Canada has the most lakes in the world.***
- ***Bolivia is the world's flattest country.***
- ***Russia is the world's largest country.***
- ***The world's oldest country is in Europe.***
- ***France's longest land border is in Brazil.***
- ***Asia is home to about 53 % of the world's urban population while Europe is home to 14 % and 13 % live in Latin America and the Caribbean.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Math teacher: *How can you distribute 8 apples among 6 people equally?*

Student: *By making juice !*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.23
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 101.84
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.21
1 Euro	= Rs. 87.16

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COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	AUGUST 23	AUGUST 24
Day's Positive Cases	76	102
Total Positive Cases	1,75,337	1,75,439
Day's Discharges	-	190
Total Discharges	1,71,919	1,72,109
Day's Deaths	1	1
Total Deaths	2,351	2,352
Total Active Cases	1,067	978

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

VOICE OF THE READER

Skip Dasara Festival-2021

Sir,

The Government of Karnataka should refrain from celebrating Dasara this year as COVID-19 is still around and especially in Mysuru district the cases have not come down to 0 percent.

Let the Royal Family celebrate the rituals inside the Palace premises as per traditions but the Mysuru District Administration should concentrate on controlling the pandemic. With great difficulty, the situation is coming back to normalcy. The Government must give more importance to people's safety instead of going after celebrations.

I request the Government and the District Administration not to illuminate prominent roads, buildings and Circles in Mysuru city as this will attract a large number of people to come out and view the lightings. It will attract tourists from nearby places and one cannot control the curiosity of the people to witness the illumination. Also there will be a problem of social distancing, violation of COVID guidelines etc. Moreover, many people haven't been vaccinated yet.

Of course, I respect Dasara festival wholeheartedly but the lives of people are more important than celebration of any festival. Let us hope to celebrate Dasara-2022 in a grand manner if things get back to normal.

—Sajjad
Rajivnagar 17.8.2021

Maharashtra Minister to visit
Goat Farm in Nanjangud tomorrow

Sunil Kedar

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Maharashtra Animal Husbandry Minister Sunil Chhatrapal Kedar will be visiting Yashodavana Goat Farm in Yedahalli of Nanjangud taluk, Mysuru, tomorrow (Aug. 26) to discuss about the research and goat farming.

Addressing press persons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan in city, Abdul Kareem of Yashodavana Goat Farm said that Yashodavana was one among the few Farms following stall feeding system. Yashodavana was conducting research on various breeds of goats, goat milk, milk products and fodder, he said adding the Minister was visiting Yashodavana along with Department officials to know more about goat farming and to help farmers indulge in goat farming.

Press Day-2021 celebrations

MDJA Annual Awards presentation ceremony in city tomorrow

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Mysuru District Journalists Association (MDJA) has organised a programme at Rani Bahadur Auditorium, Manasagangothri, tomorrow (Aug. 26) at 10.30 am to mark the Press Day-2021 celebrations and to present MDJA Annual Awards. Minister S.T. Somashekar will inaugurate. Mysore University VC Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar will be the main speaker. MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev will present Awards. MLA L. Nagendra will be the chief guest. MDJA President S.T. Ravikumar will preside.

The awardees are as follows:

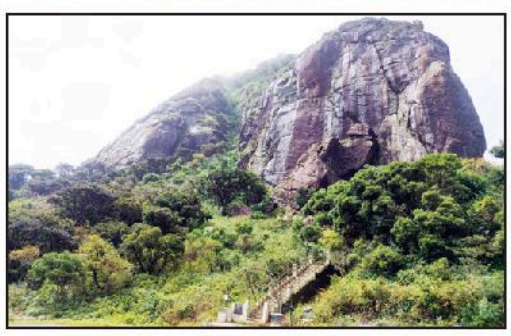
Best Report in Kannada: Satish Depura - *Udayavani;* **Rural Report in Kannada:** H.S. Sachit of Hunsur - *Prajavani;* **Best Report in English:** Rajkumar Bhavasar (RKB) - *Star of Mysore*; **Best Photograph:** S. Udayashankar - *The New Indian Express;* **Best Report in Electronic Media:** *Doordarshan* reporter G. Jayanth and cameraman Ramu.

Felicitation

The following achievers in the field will be felicitated on the occasion: **Lifetime Achievement:** R. Krishna Kumar, Deputy Editor - *The Hindu;* **Senior Sub-editor:** H.K. Nagesh - *Vijaya Karnataka;* **Senior Photographer:** S.R. Madhusudhan - *The Times of India;* **Rural Journalist:** K.T. Ramesh of K.R. Nagar - *Mysuru Mithra;* **Senior Reporter of Electronic Media:** K.P. Nagaraj - *Public TV;* **Senior Cameraman:** E. Karthik - *Public TV*.

Apart from that, Karnataka Media Academy Members Kudli Gururaj and C.K. Mahendra, Kannada Rajyotsava Awardee C. Maheshwaran (Editor of *Sadhvi*) and Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Award recipients Echanur Kumar and Amshi Prasannakumar will be honoured.

Tourists enjoy purple views
but leave trash behind at Kotebetta



Madikeri, Aug. 25 (PS&BCT)- The once-in-12-years blooming Neelakurinji or Strobilanthes kunthiana has become a sensation in Kodagu and tourists from all over are making a beeline to Mandalapatti, Kotebetta and also Kumara Parvatha to witness the rare spectacle of hills bathed in flowers of purplish-blue hue.

The tourists are arriving in hordes at a time when COVID-19 cases are still not showing a rapid declining trend and amidst restrictions like weekend curfew. As there are no restrictions on travelling and moving on own vehicles from one place to another, there is literally no obstruction for the tourists to visit the hills for some fresh sights and photographic moments.

The actual blooming of flowers started last week and the entire hillock region will be covered with rare flowers for a few more days. Photos and videos of the purple hills have gone viral in almost every social media platform and also in the mainstream media. Among residents in the region, they are called 'Kurinji' flowers.

But the darker side of the tourist arrival, apart from the risk of spreading the virus is the tourists spoiling the beauty of the place and desecrating places that are considered holy by the local residents. Liquor bottles, plastic bottles, covers and other soft drink pack wastes have been found at the Lord Shiva Temple at Kotebetta.

The Bottlappa (the father of hills) Temple at Kotebetta is dedicated to Lord Shiva and till now people used to visit the Temple premises only for religious purposes and also when the temple fair is organised. Tourists come here with picnic materials and food and after staying the entire day enjoying the purple-painted hill ranges, they leave behind the trash. The Temple comes under Garwale Gram Panchayat limits in Somwarpet Taluk.

Despite signboards being placed around the Temple that footwear is prohibited in the Temple surroundings, people wear slippers and shoes. Villagers say that the Temple has a historical significance and weekly pujas are conducted there for the deity. "There are two Temples at Kotebetta. While one is at the foot of the hill the other is right on the top. There is a belief that a tunnel links the two," said villagers.

"People come here with liquor and beer bottles taking along non-vegetarian food to party. This is a sacred place for us but the tourists are desecrating the entire place. The Police and Forest Department must take action against the culprits," demanded villagers M.K. Lingappa, Pasura Pandu Madappa, Ajay Nanaiah and Sudhi who are long-time residents of the area.

According to villagers, a few days back, a group of youths were found consuming alcohol at Kotebetta and when they were questioned, the enraged youths assaulted the villagers. The issue reached Somwarpet Police Station. "Such incidents have become common these days and the sacredness of the place that we have safeguarded till now is lost," villagers lamented.

Heli Taxi cashes in on nature

Cashing in on the increased visitor inflow to see the purple hills of Kodagu, Thumby Aviation has launched a Heli Taxi service to Kodagu for tourists to have an aerial view of the hillocks. The 'aerial view of Neelakurinji at Mandalapatti Hills' trip will start from Bengaluru where tourists can book the whole helicopter for Rs. 2,30,000. The company has also launched a package on Aug. 25 and 26 where one person can pay Rs. 8,500 for a trip while a family pack (six passengers) will cost Rs. 48,000.

NEWS BRIEFS

Bhajans at Sri Ramadhama

Bhajans by Sri Vijaya Vittala Bhajana Mandali has been organised at Sri Ramadhama, #370, 3rd Cross, Udayagiri, today between 5.30 pm and 7 pm, as part of Sri Raghavendra Gurusarvabhouma's 350th Aradhana Mahotsava which will conclude today.

Appointed office-bearers

The following have been appointed as the office-bearers of the Mysuru district unit of Manava Hakkugala Jagruthi Samithi (Human Rights Awareness Committee), which came into existence on May 1, 2021: Steven Fernandes - President; Dr. C. Antony Paulraj - Vice-President; D.K. Subhash - Secretary; K.M. Prasad and S. Jeevitha Aroja - Joint Secretaries, M. Ramesh - Treasurer, Raghuveer - Co-ordinator and Supreetha Fernandes, S. Sharon, M.N. Lokesh Kiran and I.T. Raghu - Members.

Ph.D awardee

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, has awarded Ph.D in Electrical and Electronics Engineering Sciences to **G.B. Umesha** for his thesis 'Spectral efficiency enhancement for MIMO-OFDM systems for high mobility users using channel estimation methods' submitted under the guidance of Dr. M.N. Shanmukha Swamy.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	**124.80**	feet
Today	:	**119.94**	feet
Yesterday	:	**120.16**	feet
Inflow	:	**3,957**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**7,020**	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	**2,284.00**	feet
Today	:	**2,282.96**	feet
Inflow	:	**3,592**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**5,417**	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	**2,859.00**	feet
Today	:	**2,857.84**	feet
Inflow	:	**1,668**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**1,750**	cusecs

Distribution of Ashraya houses

Officials will be held responsible for irregularities: MLA Nagendra

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (MK&KS)- "Officials should take steps to prevent irregularities in distribution of Ashraya houses. CCTVs should be installed compulsorily and in case any irregularities occur, officials will be held responsible for it," warned MLA L. Nagendra.

Addressing the Chamaraja Constituency Ashraya Committee Meeting at the MCC Old Council Hall on Monday, Nagendra said that there were complaints of irregularities and officials were extorting money from the poor people for distributing Ashraya houses. He asked the officials to work efficiently without giving room to irregularities.

"Among those who were allotted houses, a few of them have sold the houses and are now applying for new houses. Middlemen, who take money from poor people to get a house allotted were visiting the office frequently, which has to be stopped," Nagendra said.

Pointing out that 23 acre land in Survey No. 65 at Hanchya village has been transferred for Chamaraja Constituency Ashraya Housing Project, he said that a decision would be taken whether to form sites after launching the cleaning works or construct houses and distribute the same.

He further said that the estimate for UGD works at Srirampura Ashraya Layout and providing basic facilities for 425 houses at Mandakalli Layout has been prepared. Out of 22 acre land in Survey No. 7 at Bandipalya Layout, steps has to be taken for the sanction of 17 acre land to construct houses for those who do not have a house, he added.

MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, Additional Commissioner M.J. Roopa, Zonal Commissioner (Administration) M.K. Savitha and members of Chamaraja Constituency Ashraya Committee were present.

Panchamasali Lingayats to launch 'Pratigna Panchayat' from Aug. 26

Sri Basava Swamiji

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (PM&DM)- Urging the Government to announce 2A Category reservation for Panchamasali Lingayats and other sub-sects such as Gowda Lingayat, Maalegowda Lingayat and Deeksha Lingayat, the Panchamasali Lingayat Samaja will launch a over one-month 'Pratigna Panchayat' from Aug. 26 to Sept. 30 across the State.

Announcing this at a press meet here on Monday, **Koodalasangama Panchamasali Mutt Seer Sri Basava Jayamrutyunjaya Swamiji** said that the campaign to seek 2A Category reservation (Pratigna Panchayat) will be launched atop M.M. Hills in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district at 10 am on Aug. 26.

Pointing out that the Pancha- yat will traverse through Chamarajanagar, Shivamogga districts, Mysuru, Mandya, Kodagu, Hassan, and also all districts of Kalyana Karnataka region, he said that the Panchayat will culminate at Bengaluru on Sept. 30.

Maintaining that the previous B.S. Yediyurappa Government had sought six months time to decide on the reservation demand, Sri Jayamrutyunjaya Swamiji said that this time will end on Sept. 15.

Recalling that Basavaraj Bommai as the Home Minister in Yediyurappa Government too had promised to look into the reservation issue, the Seer said that now that Bommai has become the Chief Minister, he should take the demand for 2A Category reservation to its logical end by announcing the reservation to Panchamasali community which is lagging behind in key social sectors such as education, economy and employment. He warned of intensifying the campaign if the Government failed to keep its promise on reservation.

Continuing, he said that the 'Pratigna Panchayat' will cover more than 124 taluks in several districts of the State in the over five-week long campaign. The Panchayat will pass through Gundlupet, Nanjangud and Mysuru city on Aug. 27 and H.D. Kote, Periyapatna, Hunsur and K.R. Nagar on Aug. 28, he added.

Taking strong exception to the reported remark of actor and former MLC 'Mukhyamantri' Chandru that Panchamasali Lingayats need no reservation facility, the Seer contended that 95 percent of the community members were backward and poor and it is totally wrong on the part of the former MLC to say so.

Former Harihar MLA H.S. Shivashankar, Panchamasali Lingayat Action Co-ordination Committee Convenor A. Mallesh, Gowda Lingayat Mahasabha State President Alanahalli Puttaswamy, office-bearers Cable Mahesh, Shambhu Patel and others were present at the press meet.

Issue show cause notices to those who do not follow rules: DC

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (KS)- "If any one is found violating tobacco sales rules, officials who impose fines on them should take steps to issue show cause notices to the violators," said Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Bagadi Gautham.

Addressing the quarterly district-level progress review meeting of the District Tobacco Control Cell at his office on Monday, the DC said that shops with license and found violating the rules should be issued notice to warn them and legal action should be initiated against the shopkeepers who do not correct themselves despite issuing notice to them. Shops without license should be closed down, he added.

Pointing out that encouragement should be given to grow tobacco alternative crops, the DC instructed the officials to collect information from farmers who have grown alternate crops for tobacco and give wide publicity to it.

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad, District Surveillance Officer Dr. Shivaprasad, Taluk Health Officer (THO) Dr. Mahadevaprasad, Dy.SP Yogendranath and others were present.

Women & Child Development Department's phone-in

Only two complaints aired

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RKB&KS)- Only two persons aired their grievances at the phone-in programme organised by the Department of Women and Child Development on Monday.

A woman complained that though application was submitted for Bhagyalakshmi Bond, the same has not been received even after six months. Replying to the question, Department's Deputy Director Geethanjali said that earlier the application was supposed to be submitted within one year of the child's birth but now it has been extended to two years. Also, the scheme is being converted to Sukanya Samrudhi, she informed and asked the woman to wait till then.

The Deputy Director also informed that earlier, application used to get lapsed if it was not submitted within one year of the child's birth. But to help women, the same has been extended to two years. Earlier, there were LIC Bonds in Post Offices which has now been converted to Sukanya Samrudhi and passbooks will be issued to the applicants. Parents can also deposit money to the account, which will be helpful in future, she informed.

Another woman sought information about women groups which are registered at Women and Child Development Department. Geethanjali informed the woman to give in writing about the information she was seeking.

FDA Veena was present during the phone-in programme.

Pillion rider killed as car collides head-on with bike

K.R. Pet, Aug. 25 (Srinivas& KS)- A man riding pillion on a bike was killed on the spot when a car collided head-on with the bike near the bridge at Murukanahalli in the taluk yesterday.

The deceased has been identified as tender coconut loader Chikkannagowda alias Kullappa (64), a resident of Murukanahalli.

Bike rider identified as Tirumala, who has sustained serious injuries, has been shifted to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru.

Tirumala and Kullappa were proceeding on the bike to the tender coconut market at K.R. Pet APMC Yard, when a Maruti Swift Car, proceeding towards Mysuru, collided head-on with the bike killing Kullappa on the spot and seriously injuring Tirumala, the bike and the front portion of the car has been badly damaged due to the impact.

K.R. Pet Rural Inspector K.R. Niranjan, Sub-Inspector Suresh and staff visited the spot, conducted mahazar and have registered a case. While Tirumala was shifted to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru for treatment, the body of Kullappa was shifted to Dundashettylakshmamma Memorial General Hospital mortuary for post-mortem.

K.R. Pet Rural Police, who have registered a case, are investigating.

Boy killed as under-construction overhead water tank collapses

Hunsur, Aug. 25 (KS)- A 12-year-old boy, who was playing with his brother under an overhead water tank, which was being constructed, was killed while his brother suffered fractures on both his legs as the overhead tank collapsed on them yesterday afternoon. The incident took place at a private layout near Manuganahalli check-post in the taluk.

While the deceased boy has been identified as Sudeep, son of Manjunayak and Saraswathi couple of Hullenahalli village in the taluk, the boy, who has sustained fractures on both his legs, is 14-year-old Pradeep.

Details: Manjunayak and Saraswathi, who were working as labourers at a building, which is being constructed near Manuganahalli check-post, had brought their children along with them to the construction site.

An overhead water tank was also being constructed nearby and as the works were stopped, the two boys were playing under the water tank. But at about 4 pm yesterday, the water tank collapsed on them all of a sudden, trapping the two boys underneath.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel were informed, who rushed to the spot and began the rescue operation. When the Fire personnel cleared the debris, they found Sudeep dead and Pradeep with broken legs. Pradeep was shifted to a hospital, where he is undergoing treatment.

Fire officers Ramesh, Naveen Kumar, Ganganayak and Hunsur Police personnel took part in the rescue operation.

A case has been registered at Bilikere Police Station.

Three from Mysuru drown in Hemavathi Canal

K.R. Pet, Aug. 25 (Srinivas& KS)- Three youth from Mysuru, who had ventured into the waters in Hemavathi Canal for a swim, were drowned yesterday.

They were part of the eight-member team of youths, who had gone to perform *puja* at Sri Chandagolammanavara Kshetra near Beeruvalli-Natanahalli village in the taluk.

The deceased youths have been identified as Manju (20), son of Siddaraju of Kumbarakoppal, Ravi (27), an auto driver from Mogarahalli Manti and Ravi (22) of Lokanayakanagar, all in Mysuru.

After performing *puja*, the eight youths went to Hemavathi Canal that passes from Mandagere reservoir via Natanahalli for a swim. While three youths got drowned, the others swam back to safety, it is learnt.

K.R. Pet Fire Brigade personnel, led by Fire Station Officer Shivanna, who rushed to the spot, began the search operation to trace the bodies but had to suspend the operation following darkness. Water to the Canal has been stopped to help trace and fish out the bodies, said K.R. Pet Sub-Inspector Suresh. The search operation was on, when we went to the Press this morning.

Mechanic meets watery grave in Varuna Canal

S. Ravindra

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&KS)- A body of a man was found floating in Varuna Canal near Rammanahalli yesterday morning.

The deceased has been identified as S. Ravindra (42), a mechanic at a vehicle showroom in city and a resident of Belagola village in Srirangapatna taluk.

KRS Police, who have registered a case, said that it is not known whether Ravindra committed suicide or accidentally fell into the canal and drowned.

The body was cremated yesterday afternoon at Belagola village.

Intimidation to IAS Officer C. Shikha

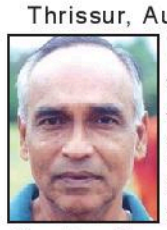
Court adjourns hearing to Aug. 31

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&DM)- A City Court has adjourned the hearing in the case where IAS Officer C. Shikha, while serving as Mysuru Deputy Commissioner (DC) in 2016, was threatened by Congress leader K. Marigowda, to Aug. 31.

Shikha had registered a case against Congress leader and former Mysuru ZP President K. Marigowda for threatening her in public during an event attended by the then Chief Minister Siddharamaiah in Mysuru in 2016.

The case (CC No. 1358/2016) came up for hearing at the city's Third Civil Court on Tuesday. But as Marigowda and two others accused in the case failed to appear, the Advocate representing them requested for an adjournment, following which the Court posted the next hearing to Aug. 31.

Olympian, 1962 Asiad winning footballer passes away



Chandrasekhar

Thrissur, Aug. 25- Former India footballer and Olympian O. Chandrasekhar Menon, who was part of the gold medal-winning Indian team at the 1962 Asian Games, died on Tuesday at his residence, family sources said. He was 85, and survived by three children.

Chandrasekhar, a defender in his playing days, was suffering from age-related ailments for some time, a source associated with the family said. He was a member of the Travancore-Cochin Santosh Trophy team and had captained the Indian team in a few tournaments.

Most notably, he was a member of the 1960 Rome Olympics Indian team besides being part of the 1962 Jakarta Asian Games. The footballer played for India from 1958-1966. He hails from Irinjalakuda in Thrissur district.

Retd. Judge Vijayan no more

Vijayan

Mysuru, Aug. 25 - Vijayan (60), retired Judge of Principal District Family Court in city and residing at the quarters in Kuvempunagar here, passed away following brief illness in city yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife, children and a host of relatives and friends.

Principal District and Sessions Court Judge N.S. Patil, First Family Court Judges Virupakshaiah and Girish Bhat have condoled the death of Judge Vijayan.

Man goes missing

Puttarajashetty

Bettadapura, Aug. 25 (Shivdev &KS)- Puttarajashetty, a resident of Kittur Bettegowdanakoppal village in Periyapatna taluk, who left his house on Aug. 14 at about 8 am, has since gone missing, according to the complaint from P. Suresh, son of the missing person, with Bettadapura Police.

Those having any information about the missing person, may contact Bettadapura Police Station on Ph: 08223-275700 or Mob: 94808-05060.

Obituary

Abdul Subhan

Mysuru, Aug. 25- Abdul Subhan (59), a resident of Mandi Mohalla in city, passed away yesterday at Hassan.

He leaves behind his wife, one son and a host of relatives and friends. Namaze-Janaza and burial was held yesterday afternoon at Hassan.

Mahadevanayaka

Nanjangud: Mahadevanayaka (74), a retired teacher and a resident of Hedatale village in the taluk, passed away yesterday in the town.

He was the former President of Government Employees Association and Education Convenor.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land in the village yesterday evening.

K.L. Gurusiddappa

K.L. Gurusiddappa (85), a retired teacher and a resident of Vidyanagar in the town, passed away yesterday afternoon in the town. He leaves behind his wife, three daughters, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Kurahatti village this noon, according to family sources.

Teams of 25 Officers, 80 Cops
to crack Vidyaranyapuram dacoity case
Police announce Rs. 5 lakh reward for information about robbers

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (MK, RK& BCT)- The City Police have intensified their operations to arrest four dacoits who had looted Amruth Gold and Silver Palace in Vidyaranyapuram on the evening of Aug. 23 and shot dead 24-year-old bystander Chandru while escaping from the spot.

Apart from announcing a reward of Rs. 5 lakh for any information about the dacoits, the Police have got clear visuals and videos of the accused barging into the shop one after the other, their movements, gestures, conversations and activities inside the shop where they looted gold.

The Police have widely circulated the photos and videos of the dacoits on all social media platforms and in their official accounts and also have relayed them to other places as well as they suspect that the gang does not belong to Mysuru but outside.

With an aim to prevent the dacoits from fleeing the city, the Police had launched a *nakabandi* from the night of the incident itself and it is being continued even now but the Police has had little luck.

All the entry and exit points have been secured and even in the city centre, checking is on where the whereabouts of the motorists are inquired and also their vehicle registration numbers noted down.

The Police have obtained detailed statements from shop owner Dharmendra and also Chandru's cousin Rajith on the details of the looted gold ornaments, the weapons the dacoits were carrying and other details.

City Police checking the vehicles and noting down the details near Ballal Circle last evening.

Rs. 5 lakh reward

The Police said in a statement yesterday that a reward of Rs. 5 lakh will be given to anyone who gives information leading to arresting the accused.

The details will be kept confidential and the information can be shared on mobile number 94808-02200, the statement added. Different teams comprising 25 Officers and 80 staff members have been constituted to crack the daring dacoity case.

Local residents recall that one-and-a-half years back, a jewellery shop right in front of Amruth Gold and Silver Palace was targeted by two persons including a woman who came to the shop on the pretext of buying gold ornaments and left the place after stealing the ornaments. They were nabbed later after the local residents helped in identifying them.

First BJP Mayor !

(Continued from page 1)

The poll process started with the filing of nomination papers at 8 am, during which Sunanda Palanetra of the BJP, H.M. Shantakumari of the Congress (Ward 32 - Usmanianagar and Ghousianagar A-Block) and Ashwini Ananthu of the JD-S (Ward 37 - Raghavendranagar) filed their papers. Soon after the filing of nomination concluded at 10 am, the candidates were allowed to withdraw their papers.

With all the three candidates remaining in the fray, Mysuru Regional Commissioner Dr. G.C. Prakash, who was the Returning Officer, ordered for voting, which commenced at 12 noon.

Congress walk out

Soon after the voting process began, the Congress Corporators, led by acting Mayor Anwar Baig and MLA Tanveer Sait, upset over the attitude of the party's coalition partner JD(S), walked out in protest.

However, the voting continued and Sunanda Palanetra of the BJP, who secured 26 votes, was declared elected as the new Mayor, with H.M. Shantakumari of the Congress and Ashwini Ananthu of the JD(S), both bagging 22 votes each.

In a counter to the Congress Corporators, the BJP members too raised slogans against the Congress, accusing it of making backdoor attempts to come to power though falling well short of the numbers.

Votes polled

The BJP has 22 Corporators, 2 MLAs, a Lok Sabha MP (Pratap Simha) and an independent Corporator (M.V. Ramprasad), which accounted for the 26 votes that Sunanda secured.

Congress candidate Shantakumari's 22 votes came with support from 19 party Corporators, MLA Tanveer Sait and two independent Corporators, while the 22 votes secured by Ashwini Ananthu came from 17 party Corporators, 2 MLCs (Marithibbegowda and K.T. Srikantegowda), one BSP Corporator and two independent Corporators.

Only 70 out of the 72 electors took part in the polls with Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda and MLC Sandesh Nagaraj, who both were elected on a JD(S) ticket, abstaining from the poll. While GTD reportedly stayed at the Government Guest House in Nazarbad along with District Minister S.T. Somashekar, who arrived in the city this morning, the whereabouts of MLC Sandesh Nagaraj was not immediately known.

With now party having a majority on its own, the election was keenly watched by political observers . The BJP is said to have got a boost with the efforts of District Minister Somashekar, party MLAs S.A.Ramdas and L.Nagendra and MP Pratap Simha, who are learnt to have held a number of parleys with the JD(S) in order to get the Mayor's post, which had eluded the party for 38 long years, though the BJP is ruling the State and the country.

Sunanda all smiles

Sunanda Palanetra was all smiles today after her victory, which erased her disappointment in the last Mayoral poll held on Feb.24, when she had walked out of the MCC Council Hall in tears after losing to Rukmini Madegowda of the JD(S).

However, her term is cut short to six months as the next Mayoral poll for the fourth term of the current tenure of MCC is scheduled for February 2022.

After the voting process concluded, the Returning Officer officially announced the election of BJP's Sunanda Palanetra as the new City Mayor and said that her term will be from Aug.25, 2021 to Feb.23, 2022.

CM greets Mayor

Soon after the official announcement, Sunanda Palanetra was greeted by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai over phone.

Fate of Deputy Mayor

Meanwhile, the fate of Anwar Baig of the Congress, who was elected the Deputy Mayor on Feb.24 and functioned as Acting Mayor following the disqualification of Rukmini Madegowda, is not immediately known, as what strategy the BJP and JD(S) will adopt is yet to be seen.

Charging points on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway

(Continued from page 1)

"Prepare an action plan for 100 days and identify at least 100 to 200 spots within Mysuru and along the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway to set up charging points. Electronic Vehicles (EVs) are the future and many people are switching over. We need the infrastructure. Currently, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company has installed more than 130 charging units at 70 locations in Bengaluru. Follow their model and act," Minister Sunil Kumar told officers.

He said that factors like entry of new electric SUVs in the market, soaring fuel prices, environmental awareness and vehicle scrappage policy recently launched by the Centre are likely to encourage more people to shift to EV.

On the Ganga Kalyana Project, the Minister directed the officers to look into scores of complaints from people where power is not supplied within 30 days. "These are farmer-friendly projects and they have been sanctioned by the Government, Boards and Corporations. CESC must supply power within the deadline," he said.

106-km Dasara illumination

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, who was also part of the meeting, urged the Minister to direct CESC to illuminate 106 km around Mysuru for Dasara 2021. "The COVID pandemic has crippled business in the tourist city of Mysuru and if the illumination is extended up to 106 km instead of the present 35 km coverage, it will attract more tourists and will in-turn help the tourism and hospitality industries recover from losses," Simha reasoned.

Consenting to the MP's proposal, Sunil Kumar asked the officers to prepare a report and place it before the Government for approval. The MP also urged the Minister to direct the officers to supply power to mega water supply projects at Melapura and Bidaragudu that supplies drinking water from Cauvery and Kabini rivers.

Before attending the meeting, the Minister said that there were no plans to privatise CESC and other electricity supply companies. On Ganesha festival, he said, "The Government has prohibited public celebration of any festival. The Government is duty bound to manage COVID and it is framing rules as per the needs. But public co-operation is also important," he said.

The Minister was silent though when reporters asked about thousands of people gathering during the *Ashirwad Yatras* carried out by the Union Ministers of Karnataka. CESC Managing Director Jayavibhavaswamy, Chief Finance Officer Ramesh Kumar, Chief Engineer V. Prakash, General Manager (Purchase) Munigopalaraju and other officers were present at the meeting.

Health condition of Oscar Fernandes improving

Mangaluru, Aug. 25 (UNI) - The health condition of senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member Oscar Fernandes is improving, sources close to his family said today. The veteran leader, who had suffered a fall while doing Yoga at home, had undergone a brain surgery a few days ago at the Yenepoya Hospital here.

Currently, he has been brought out of ventilator support and is under close observation by a team of specialists.

JD(S) MLA G.T. Devegowda decides to join Congress

G.T. Devegowda

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (MTY&DM)- Making his decision official, Chamundeshwari JD(S) MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) on Tuesday announced that he was going to join the Congress party.

Speaking to press persons here yesterday, GTD expressed his disappointment over the 'ill treatment' meted out to him in the JD(S). Stating that he was going to join the Congress, GTD thanked JD(S) supremo and former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda for calling him recently in a bid to persuade him against leaving the party.

Expressing his displeasure over the attitude of former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, GTD laid threadbare the insult that he faced in the JD(S) in the past two years. Lashing out at his fellow JD(S) MLA from K.R. Nagar S.R. Mahesh, the Chamundeshwari MLA recounted the discomfort that he faced even as a Minister in the JD(S)-Congress collation Government.

Maintaining that he will continue to be an MLA for the remaining 20 months, he said that he will be joining the Congress ahead of the 2023 Assembly polls.

Expressing disappointment that the JD(S) failed to give the party ticket to his son G.D. Harishgowda from Hunsur in the Assembly polls, GTD alleged that former CM Kumaraswamy did not respond properly when Harishgowda sought his blessings after becoming the MCDCC Bank President.

Reiterating that he was insulted at every step in the JD(S), GTD alleged that he was sidelined even during the MCC polls and all such insults had forced him to stay away from the party's activities. He has no other option other than leaving the JD(S), he said and added that he has already held talks with KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar and Opposition leader Siddharamaiah on joining the Congress.

2023 election will be my last fight: Ex-CM Kumaraswamy

Kumaraswamy

Bengaluru, Aug. 25 (UNI)- The 2023 State election will be the last fight of my life, said former Chief Minister and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy while addressing a party rally at Hirekerur yesterday.

Taking a dig at Congress, Kumaraswamy said the grand-old-party was the reason for the BJP to form such a bad Government.

The BJP Government, he said, was only making announcements, but were not implementing them. "It had announced an assistance of Rs. 5 lakh each to those who had lost their houses in the floods and landslides. Not a single paisa is given," he said.

The Government also has not distributed crop loss compensation and failed to fulfil its promise to waive of farm loans, he noted.

Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa had assured farmers of his Government's commitment on the farm loan waiver, which was announced by the JD(S)-Congress coalition Government in 2019.

"Farmers here told me that the Government has not waived of farm loans. The BJP had mocked me for waiving the farm loan," Kumaraswamy said.

"I did not aspire to form a Government with any party. The Congress leaders came to my house and offered my party the post of Chief Minister, but H.D. Deve Gowda rejected it. I accepted the Chief Minister's post only to fulfil my pre-poll promise of waiving of farm loan," he said.

Just before the last Assembly elections, Kumaraswamy had promised farm loan waiver of Rs. 53,000 crore, including interests from comparative and nationalised banks within 24 hours of him taking oath as the CM.

"Even now, I don't aspire to be the Chief Minister, but do you want a Government which does not have any interest to address the problems of people and farmers," he asked.

MCC by-poll: Nomination paper of Independent candidate rejected

Mysuru, Aug.25 (MTY&DM)- With the deadline for filing of nomination papers for MCC Ward 36 (Yaraganahalli and Ambedkar Colony) by-poll ending on Monday (Aug.23), the scrutiny of nomination papers was taken up yesterday. The Ward is reserved for Backward Class-B category (Woman).

The by-poll has been necessitated by the annulment of the election of Rukmini Madegowda of the JD(S), who went on to become the Mayor in February last.

A total of 6 candidates, who included candidates of the BJP, Congress and JD(S) and three independents, had filed their nomination papers. The scrutiny of all the nominations was taken up at the MCC Zone-9 Office in Gayathripuram on Tuesday morning, during which the nomination papers of independent candidate S. Geetha was rejected on the grounds of disorder. However, the nomination papers of all the other five candidates

were found to be in order.

The BJP has fielded Shobha Ramesh, while the Congress has fielded Rajani Annaiah and the JD(S) Leelavathi Mahesh. The two independent candidates who have filed nominations are Roopa and R. Rajeshwari.

The last date for withdrawal of nomination papers is Aug.26. The voting will take place on Sept.3 (7 am to 5 pm) and the counting of votes will be taken up on Sept. 6.

TEASER By N. Prakash

MCC records Rs. 81.72 crore Property Tax collection

5 percent rebate deadline ends on Aug. 31

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (RK&DM)- Even as the MCC (Mysuru City Corporation) extended the 5 percent rebate deadline to Aug. 31, the Civic Body, till Aug. 22, has recorded a total Property Tax collection of Rs. 81,71,96,615 from all its nine Zonal offices.

MCC's Acting Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Rangaswamy said that with the MCC facilitating online payment from this year, the citizens are paying Property Tax from the comforts of their home voluntarily.

Pointing out that the MCC Property tax collection was Rs. 81,41,44,794 between Apr. 1 and Aug. 20, he said that the Civic Body recorded a collection of Rs. 30,51,821 in another two days (Aug. 21 & 22), thus adding up to a total collection of Rs. 81,71,96,615, collectively from all the nine Zonal offices.

Noting that the 5 percent rebate on Property Tax will continue till Aug. 31, Rangaswamy appealed all property owners to avail the rebate by paying their tax before the deadline.

'Mini Udyoga Mela' in city

Mysuru, Aug. 25- As part of 'Skill Month' celebrations, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Department, Mysuru, in association with the District Employment Exchange Office, has organised a 'Mini Udyoga Mela' (Job Fair) at Exhibition Grounds, Doddakere Maidan, in city on Aug. 30 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Around 25 companies from Mysuru and Bengaluru will take part in the Job Fair to recruit candidates for Marketing, Finance, Insurance, Industries, Banking and Health sectors.

Candidates having passed 7th standard, SSLC, PUC, any degree, ITI (Mechanical, Fitter) and Diploma, Diploma in Mechanical and Nursing (ANM&GNM) may benefit from the Job Fair.

Candidates, both men and women, with knowledge of Kannada, English and Hindi languages and aged between 18-35 years may attend the Job Fair with bio-data and with strict adherence to COVID-19 guidelines, according to a press release from the Department.

MUDA SITE FOR SALE
Sathagalli 'B' Zone
South West Corner
site No. 417, 20x30,
Price Rs. 31 Lakhs final
Owner : 9611390001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client is intending to Joint Development Agreement for the below mentioned property from its owners **Sri. M.S. Manjunatha Gupta** son of A.K. Nagaraja Settee, #444, AA 2nd Cross, Southern Extension, Kollegal, Chamarajanagar, Karnataka - 571440, **Sri. N.S. Lakshmi** W/o Sunil Kumar N.S., #1940/A, Narasimha Nilaya, Kotwal Ramaiah Street, Devaraja Mohalla, Mysore, Karnataka-570001 and **Sri. T.S. Raghuraman** son of T.R. Shashidhar Rao, #4, Block No. 21, 8th Cross, Madhuvana Layout, Srirampura 2nd Stage, Mysore, Karnataka-570023.

Any person/s having or claiming any right, title, estate or interest by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, lease lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easements, transfer, license, possession, gift, encourmbrance or in manner whatsoever are hereby required to given notice of the same to the undersigned in the address mentioned below within **15 days** from the date of publication hereof together with the copies of all documents on the basis of which such claims are made, failing which any such right, title, interest or claim, will be deemed to have been waived and shall not be binding on my client and he will proceed to conclude the transaction of purchase without reference to the same if any.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

The Residential **Plot No. 550** measuring **East to West 30.48 meters and North to South 36.576 meters** measuring **11 guntas** carved in alienated land bearing **Sy.No. 337/2** out of total extent of 1 acre 18 guntas situated at Bogadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysore Taluk which is bounded on: **East by:** Sy.No. 336/2; **West by:** Sy.No. 337/2 remaining property; **North by:** Bharathi Rajashekar Property & **South by:** Gaddige-Mysore Road.

Sd/-Ravi Kiran, B.Sc., LL.B.,
Advocate, #1143/1E, Chanakya Circle,
Geetha Road, Chamarajapuram,
Mysuru-570 004.
Ph: 0821-4287199 / M-9980776068

Date: 26.8.2021
Place: Mysore

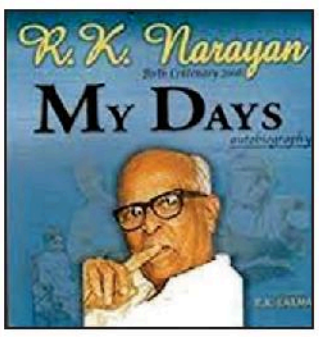
Abracadabra...

Old is Gold

By K.B. Ganapathy

Talking about ghosts, spirit

[Published on 19.5.1978]



Now let us talk about ghosts. Personally, I have not seen a ghost or even experienced its presence round about me either in the darkness of my house or during the day time. But some of my friends are vehement in their assertion about existence of ghost saying they simply cannot deny or ignore a personal experience.

I love to hear about ghosts. Not in the stillness of a dark night though. I am psychologically bold enough to hear about ghosts but not bold enough to see one. God has been merciful to me.

It is difficult for me to believe in an ethereal creature, without any substance, like ghost. I check myself from laughing whenever my friends talk of seeing a ghost.

However, I had to revise my thinking after reading R.K. Narayan's *'My Days'*, an autobiography. Other day when I attended his talk at Manasagangothri, he was asked about ghosts and he seemed to be sincere in his, may I say, belief. Boys are boys. So one naughty boy asked Narayan if the ghost he saw was a male or a female one. Of course, Narayan gently parried the question.

Anyway, if you have read *'My Days'* you would have known that the ghost which Narayan saw was a female one — that of his wife. To each his belief and to each his ghost.

The best on ghost and our belief in its existence is from no less a person than Samuel Johnson, who said: All arguments are against ghost but all belief is for it.— **PUCK**

Spirit game

[Published on 12.5.1978]

GO-PARAKA, GO-PARAKA, GO-PARAKA. Then a clash of three cane sticks over a piece of white cloth. What do they mean to you? Gibberish? Childish prank?

Well, these are the spell-binding magic words, a sort of abracadabra, which invokes some spirit which will possess some person before whom 'Go-Paraka, Go-Paraka' is chanted aloud in chorus.

I was witness to this 'spirit' game on last Sunday night at a remote corner of our State. It was more of a 'fun game' than anything frightening or eerie. The 'spirit' itself was innocent both in words and action except for the awe-inspiring wooden mask of the God or spirit painted red and white with popping eyes and bared teeth with two Dracula-like fangs hanging from either end of its lips, tongue, of course, must loll. The person possessed of the spirit was a teenager. The exorcising of the spirit was also a simple affair unlike the Hollywood spirit of the film 'Exorcist.'

All in all, I loved the company of simple, ignorant village folks who have found a God befitting their belief and understanding of matters super-natural. The best part, however, as far as I was concerned was the eating. They had slaughtered a sheep, a sacrificial offering to their God and we all had a midnight supper. I thought of the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. The thought, however, must end there. For I want to enjoy this, year after year after year... listening to this 'Go-Paraka' and eating that supper.— **PUCK**

NOTE: *In the beginning, Abracadabra column did not carry a headline like in later days. For some years it only had a pen name 'PUCK' for its author.—**Ed***

e-mail:
voice@starofmysore.com

Systematic preparation holds key for success in competitive exam, says Forest Officer

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (DM) - Maintaining that success or achievement does not come easily, Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF), Mysuru Circle, T. Heeralal said that a systematic preparation and relentless academic studies hold key for attaining success in entrance and other competitive exams.

He was speaking at the valedictory of the 26-day K-CET (Karnataka Common Entrance Test for admission to under-graduate professional courses) organised by Competitive Exams Coaching Centre of KSOU in association with Jnanodaya PU College (Jnanasharada Educational Institution) and Sri Vidyathirtha Institute of Culture at KSOU premises in Mukthagangothri here on Monday.

Noting that every individual will have a certain level of intelligence, Heeralal said it is important that students set a goal for themselves and start preparations in right earnest for achieving that.

Stating that he comes from a rural background and studied in Kannada medium upto SSLC, Heeralal said that his grit, determination and commitment saw him through the IFS (Indian Forest Service) exam, in which he secured 24th rank.

Contending that Google is a treasure of knowledge, he said that what is required for accessing it is just a network connection and the students must make full use of the information and data that they would get from Google.

Recalling that information is available at finger tips nowadays, thanks to advancements in Science and Technology, he cited the example of Industrialist and Media House owner Vijay Sankeshwar, who from a humble beginning as a small Goods Transport operator, went on to become one of the top entrepreneurs of the State, through sheer hard work and determination.

Dispelling the general notion that success means only money and power, Heeralal argued that success does not come from money or power; it is grit, determination and enduring power that hold key for achieving big in life.

KSOU Registrar Prof. R. Rajanna too spoke. S.V. Venkatesh of Jnanasharada Educational Institution, KSOU Deans Dr. Ashok Kamble and Dr. Shanmuka, Finance Officer Dr. A. Khader Pasha, Centre Co-ordinator Jainahalli Sathyanarayanagowda and others were present.

Coaching class for competitive exams

Mysuru, Aug.25- The Mysuru branch of Bengaluru-based Krishik Sarvodaya Foundation is conducting coaching classes for Civil Services, KAS and Bank recruitment exams from Sept. 6.

The coaching will be both online and offline mode. Hostel facilities are available for those in need. Also endowment student scholarship will be provided for talented and deserving economically backward candidates. Last date for registration is Aug. 30. For details, e-mail: *ksf.mysore-branch@gmail.com* or call Ph: 0821-2301564 or Mob: 99457-52592 or 96116-05678. Interested may visit the Foundation Office located on General K.S. Thimayya Road, Vijayanagar Second Stage, Mysuru.

Rotary West donates 50 computers

MLA L. Nagendra seen handing over a computer to College Principal Padmanabha at Maharani's Science College premises here on Monday as others look on.

Mysuru, Aug. 25 (KS) - Rotary Mysore West donated 50 computers to the students of Maharani's Science College here on Monday. The computers were distributed by MLA L. Nagendra.

After symbolically handing over the computers to a few students, Nagendra spoke about the current education system and stressed on the need of updating knowledge in an effective manner.

"Rotary Mysore West has taken a lead in donating 50 computers to this institute and students should make use of these computers in a productive way," he added. He also mentioned that this has been a signature project for the Club as they are donating computers for the most valuable cause.

District 3181 Governor-Nominee Rtn. H.R. Keshav enlightened the audience about the magnanimity of Cognizant Software, which donated the computers free of cost. College Principal Padmanabha presided.

Rotary Mysore West President Rtn. Dr. B. Chandra, Assistant Governor Rtn. C.S. Ravishankar, Secretary Dr. Mohankrishna, Immediate Past President Rtn. M.D. Raghavendra Prasad, Community Service Director Rtn. Karthik V. Kashyap, Club Service Director Rtn. Sudheendra and Chairman of The Rotary Foundation Rtn. Ganesh Chowdhari were present.

Bikernis

Riding beyond Boundaries

By R. Amanda Fernandez

Motorcycling has evolved into a unique leisure option and riding bikes is culturally perceived as a masculine activity. Prior to the emergence of motorcycle clubs and even years later, the activity was male-dominated as women possessed a subservient role with limited riding options.

Even if women are seen on motorcycles, they are often just passengers, being driven by their sons, brothers, husbands, friends or fathers. It is rare to find women riding motorcycles because they are not considered capable enough to handle these mean machines.

Now, together with their changing role in the society, women have shifted from the rear to the riding seat and have come to the forefront of the riding community. The passion to drive is driven and boosted by 'The Bikerni', a pan-India women's bike organisation formed in 2011 to unite female riders across the country. And they ride so with utmost pride and vigour.

Women on motorcycles attract plenty of attention, but that's not always a bad thing. The riders are happy to be on the road and they find it empowering to be able to race off on their powerful machines.

In big cities, a woman riding geared heavy bikes is not an 'eyebrow-raising activity' but for a small city like Mysuru, it definitely is. Though one cannot see women on bikes on a daily basis here, riding culture in Mysuru is booming for sure. 'The Bikerni' is taking appreciation and mockery with chivalry.

POLICE HURDLE

"I have had Traffic Police stop me time and again to check if I had a DL or not. And many times men in signals have given me dirty looks like I'm doing something that's forbidden but a few times I have received applause too," 28-year-old **Kanchana Ganga,** a passionate rider and a professional yoga teacher, told *Star of Mysore*.

She has been riding for 9 years and now has a Bajaj Avenger. Her longest solo ride has been to Leh, Ladakh. She also claims that yoga has helped her immensely tackle any kind of body pain associated with long rides.

"Riding is the best feeling and it is addictive. Initially it might be a little hard, but never let the fear of falling or what others think. Keep riding and explore the world," says 24-year-old **Navya Prabhu,** a solo rider, who's currently pursuing her MBA. She rides a Royal Enfield Classic and has been biking since 4 years.

S. Soundharya

SENSE OF FREEDOM

"Riding a motorcycle gives me a sense of freedom and excitement. The sheer enjoyment I feel, when the air brushes past me, the sound of the engine and so on," 21-year-old **S. Soundharya** exclaims.

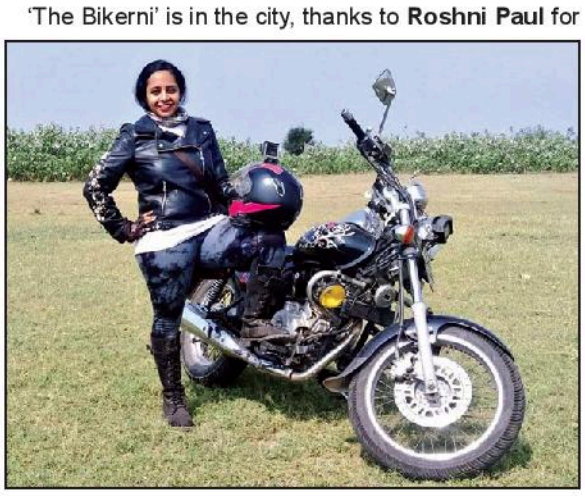
An avid rider, she is a final year architecture student and also one of the admins of Gixxer Club Mysore. She owns a Suzuki Gixxer SF.

'The Bikerni' is in the city, thanks to **Roshni Paul** for opening a new chapter in Mysuru. It was established in 2011 in Pune by Urvashi Patole and Firdaus Shaikh. The club has its chapters in 16 cities including Mysuru.

Roshni Paul

When Roshni Paul came to Mysuru, she had given up searching for a biking community, so she branched 'The Bikerni Mysuru', to get in touch with riders. Presently, the club in Mysuru has more than 40 members. Roshni is an ardent rider and a mother and has covered almost half of the country on her bike.

She rides a Pulsar Adventure Sports and has been biking since 2015. The club is open for anyone to join — learners and riders from all age groups. One can contact them via Instagram or Facebook.



Kanchana Ganga

Navya Prabhu

WORD OF THE DAY

Scuttlebutt

Pronunciation: SKUTT-ul-butt.
Meaning: An informal noun that refers to rumour or gossip.
Origin: When office workers catch up on the latest scuttlebutt around the water cooler, they are continuing a long-standing tradition that probably also occurred on the sailing ships of yore. Back in the early 1800s, the cask containing a ship's daily supply of fresh water was called a scuttlebutt (from the verb scuttle meaning "to cut a hole through" and the noun butt, "cask"); that name was later applied to a drinking fountain on a ship or at a naval installation. In time, the term for the water source was also applied to the gossip and rumors generated around it, and the latest chatter has been called "scuttlebutt" ever since.
Example: "There's always a bit of scuttlebutt when a talented chef leaves a popular restaurant to pursue another opportunity." — Ligaya Figueras, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 29 Apr. 2021.

THE ODD WORD

Sagene

Fishing-net; network.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Stick a fork in it

Meaning: Stick a fork in it is a common idiom that means something is finished. It can refer to things that are no longer functional; to people who feel exhausted; or food that is done cooking.
Origin: The origin of this phrase might come from the practice of sticking a fork in meat that is in the process of cooking. People do this in order to check whether the meat has finished cooking and is ready to eat. After this expression is said, it's common for the words "<personal pronoun> is done" to follow. For example: "stick a fork in (him), (he) is done!" The words in parenthesis are replaceable depending on who or what is being talked about.
Example: I bought a new monitor last week and now it doesn't power on anymore! Stick a fork in it, it's done; I definitely returning this as soon as I can. Mike's pizza place downtown might be going out of business soon. Stick a fork in it, he might be done.

QUOTE BOX

Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once. **— Lillian Dickson**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus

AIMING

Answer: Aiming high.

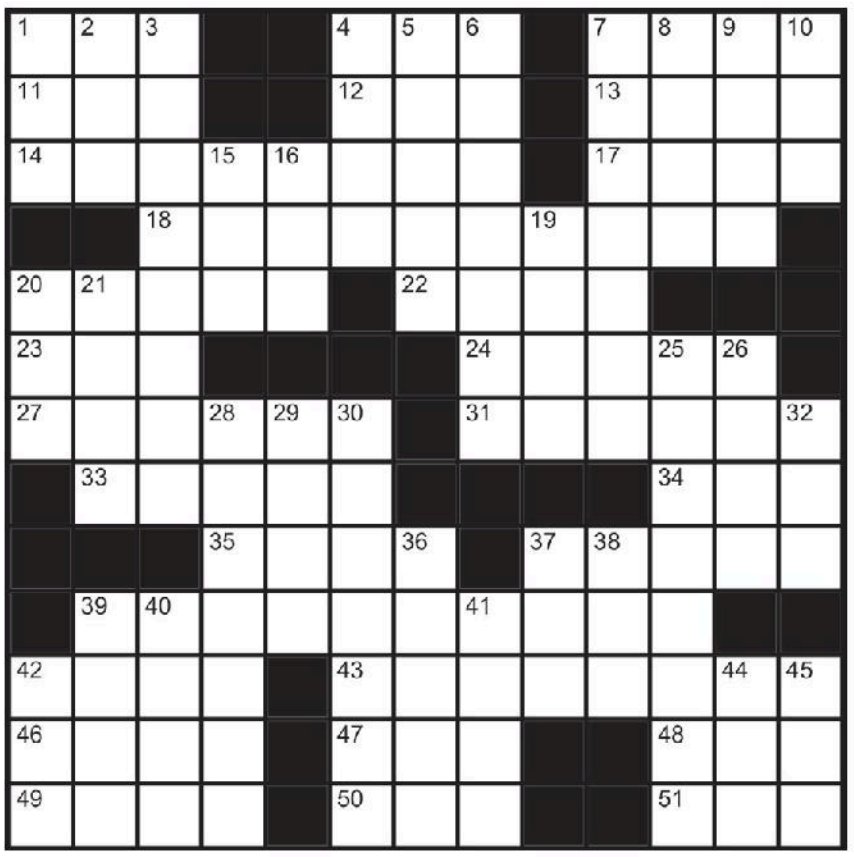
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 "Like" suffix
4 Bird: prefix
7 Refer to
11 Female ruff
12 Harry Potter's best friend
13 An astringent
14 Latin phrase meaning a rare bird or a rarity? (4,4)
17 Beaks
18 Allies or co-workers?
20 Small lizard, with adhesive pads on its toes
22 Fencing sword
23 National Chemical Laboratories, acronym?
24 Goddess of peace
27 Nepalese porter
31 Machine used for generating of electrical power
33 Kind of willow used for basket making
34 Radio Mgmnt. Unit
35 Devdas's lover on screen
37 Fundamental unit of capacitance
39 Theatrical entrepreneur
42 Salvador ____ : famous Spanish painter?
43 Led Zeppelin's ____ to Heaven
46 Get _ _ writing (2,2)
47 Israel's __ Aviv
48 Bud's movie partner
49 Ex-India batsman Abbas Ali ___
50 Distress signal
51 Edible tuber

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

K	E	G			P	T	A		S	O	W	
H	O	N	E		O	W	N		A	N	E	W
Z	E	P	P	E	L	I	N		L	U	R	E
			I	D	O			T	V	S	E	T
G	R	E	C	O		N	I	C	E			
A	I	L	S			Y	E	A	R	L	Y	
G	N	S			B	A	R			V	O	W
	G	E	N	I	U	S			S	I	L	O
			E	L	S	A		A	L	I	K	E
S	P	O	I	L			B	A	A			
K	I	N	G		C	H	A	R	C	O	A	L
I	T	C	H		I	R	K		K	I	L	T
	Y	E	S		A	T	E			L	E	D

DOWN
1 Like some vbs.
2 Body of water
3 Greek hero
4 Afternoon for the Aussie
5 Utter
6 Vapid
7 Water or cutlery container
8 Tennis star Nastase
9 Vats or barrels
10 Printing measures
15 Call for an answer to or about
16 Kyushu mountain
19 Eagle's nest
20 Global Navigation Sys.
21 A repetition of sound
25 By a small margin
26 Jane Austen novel
28 Tearing or being torn violently
29 Fruit that sounds like "pair"?
30 Stops further growth of
32 Musical instrument
36 Bone prefix
37 Sixth day of the week, in short
38 A mixture of gases we breathe
39 Intl. Air Transp. Assoc.
40 1052 in Roman numerals
41 Types of East Indian shrubs
42 Drop bait lightly
44 Angle-of-attack, abbr.
45 Delicious



SUDOKU

6					5			8
							1	2
		2	3		7		5	
		6			8		9	
		9				1		
	1		5			3		
	5		4		6	8		
1	6							
4			9					6

Answer to previous puzzle

6	9	2	5	8	3	7	4	1
3	5	8	1	4	7	9	2	6
1	4	7	9	2	6	3	8	5
4	3	9	7	5	1	8	6	2
2	6	1	3	9	8	5	7	4
7	8	5	4	6	2	1	9	3
9	7	6	2	3	5	4	1	8
8	1	3	6	7	4	2	5	9
5	2	4	8	1	9	6	3	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

MJ KRQWDB UJ JLJTGIDDH ANONDIGL IOINGKL ILLJVELK LQ

XRJXF LRJ JYETJKKNQG QP QENGNQGK LRIL MJ DQILRJ.

TODAY'S CLUE: M EQUALS W

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The perfect bureaucrat everywhere is the man who manages to make no decisions and escape all responsibility.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** **Mob: 9900820093**
  Seetharam Benoy Case No. 18 (K) - 4 shows
- **Padma Theatre** **Ph: 2521923**
  Seetharam Benoy Case No. 18 (K) - 4 shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** **Ph: 2422871**
  Bell Bottom (H) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** **Ph: 2497199**
  Radhe (H) - 3 shows
- **Uma Theatre** **Ph: 2520009**
  The Last Horror (H) - 4 shows

DRC CINEMAS **Ph: 4240422, 4241800**

Seetharam Benoy Case No. 18 (K)

	(S-1)	1.30 pm, 6.30 pm
Bell Bottom (2D-H)	(S-1)	4.00 pm
	(S-3)	10.40 am
	(S-4)	1.20 pm, 6.25 pm
Bell Bottom (3D-H)	(S-4)	10.45 am, 3.50 pm
The Conjuring (E)	(S-2)	11 am, 6.25 pm
Shardula (K)	(S-2)	1.25 pm
Groufie (K)	(S-2)	4.05 pm
Jeevnane Natka Samy (K)	(S-3)	1.10 pm
Paagal (Te)	(S-3)	3.30 pm
Raja Raja Chora (Te)	(S-3)	6.10 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE **Ph: 2533444 / 2533456**

Bell Bottom (3D-H)	(S-1)	10.30 am, 1.30 pm
		4.30 pm
Bell Bottom (H)	(S-2)	11.30 am, 2.30 pm, 5.30 pm
	(S-4)	5.00 pm
The Conjuring (E)	(S-4)	11.00 am
Shardula (K)	(S-3)	2.20 pm
Groufie (K)	(S-3)	5.45 pm
Jeevnane Natka Samy (K)	(S-3)	11.20 am
Raja Raja Chora (Te)	(S-4)	1.40 pm

PVR CINEMAS

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor.
Mob: 8951357139

Bell Bottom (H-3D)	:	12 noon, 3 pm, 6 pm
Bell Bottom (H-2D)	:	10.15 am, 11.15 am
		2.15 pm, 5.15 pm
Groufie (K)	:	11.20 am
Shardula (K)	:	5.20 pm
Jeevnane Natka Samy (K)	:	2.30 pm
Raja Raja Chora (Te)	:	10 am, 1.30 pm, 5 pm
Kanabadutaledu (Te)	:	2.20 pm
Paagal (Te)	:	1.15 pm
Demon Slayer (E)	:	4:15 pm
The Conjuring (E)	:	11.35 am, 5.35 pm

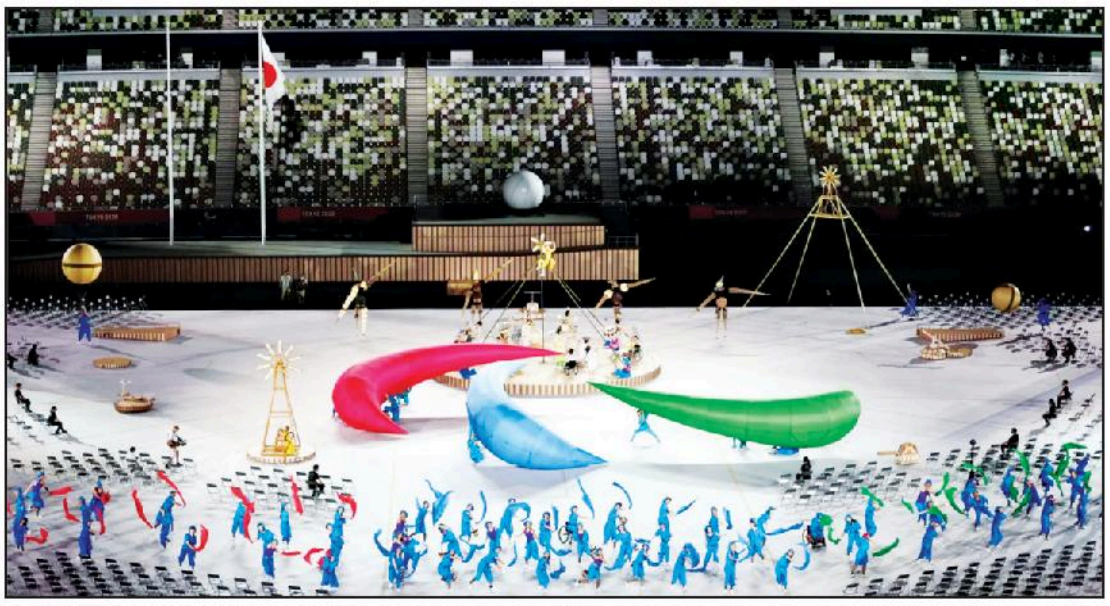
MYSURU VISION CINEMAS **Ph: 0821 - 2973519**

Groufie (K)	(S-1)	11 am, 4.30 pm
Jeevnane Natka Samy (K)	(S-4)	11.30 am, 4 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

Tokyo 2020 Paralympics take off with theme 'We Have Wings'

Japan's Emperor Naruhito yesterday declared the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics Games open surrounded by banks of vacant seats at the 68,000-capacity Olympic Stadium in Tokyo, with virus rules banning spectators from almost all events. Three Japanese para-athletes — wheelchair tennis player Yui Kamiji, boccia player Shunsuke Uchida and powerlifter Karin Morisaki — then combined to light the flame. [Pic: https://olympics.com/tokyo-2020/en/paralympics/]



As the Karakuri machinery moved, three colour winds transformed into the Three Agitos, symbol of the Paralympic Games. The Crew members waved scarves as if to celebrate the completion of the symbol.

"We Have Wings" was the concept of the opening ceremony. The segment told the story of a one-winged plane that takes to the skies, ending in a wild crescendo. The inspirational story of the 'Little One-Winged Plane' featured performers with a variety of impairments, from vision and lower limb deficiency to dwarfism, cerebral palsy and others, who have not let their impairments get in their way. This includes the lead, 13-year-old WAGO Yui, who has upper and lower limb dysfunction caused by a congenital disorder. The pared-down ceremony took place in front of around 800 VIPs and officials, but there was a celebratory mood as 162 teams enjoyed their long-awaited moment in the global spotlight. The 13-day Paralympics, with 539 gold medals up for grabs across 22 sports, arrive two weeks after the close of an Olympics that also took place almost entirely behind closed doors over virus fears.

TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPIC GAMES

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- https://www.eurosportplayer.com/
- https://www.paralympic.org/

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